

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claims 1 to 38 (Cancel)

Claim 39 (new) A contact lens, comprising:

a contact lens body having a base curvature with a convex anterior face, a concave posterior face, and a peripheral edge therebetween with a peripheral zone adjacent the peripheral edge of the anterior face, the body having a thickness between the anterior face and the posterior face and being non-axis-symmetric to define a superior edge and an inferior edge, a vertical meridian defined from the superior edge toward the inferior edge and a horizontal meridian perpendicular thereto;

the anterior face including an inner zone circumscribed by the peripheral zone, and an optic zone in the inner zone, wherein the inner zone includes a ballast portion and the thickness increases parallel to the vertical meridian from the superior edge toward the inferior edge in at least the ballast portion of the inner zone;

wherein the inner zone comprises a superior portion between the optic zone and the superior extent of the inner zone, an inferior portion between the optic zone and the inferior extent of the inner zone, and an intermediate portion between the superior and inferior portions; and

the ballast portion is defined within one or more of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions and has a series of consecutive horizontal cross-sections exclusive of the peripheral zone and the optic zone spanning a distance along the vertical meridian of at least 20% of the smallest dimension of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions as measured along the vertical meridian, wherein each horizontal cross-

section has a substantially uniform thickness not varying by more than about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 40 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the thickness of each of the horizontal cross-section does not vary across the extent of the horizontal cross-section by more than 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 41 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion is a prism ballast.

Claim 42 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion spans a distance along the vertical meridian of at least 50% of the smallest dimension of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions as measured along the vertical meridian.

Claim 43 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion is defined wholly within only one of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions.

Claim 44 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion is defined wholly within only two of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions.

Claim 45 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion is defined within all three of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions.

Claim 46 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion spans a distance along the vertical meridian of at least 50% of the respective dimensions of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions as measured along the vertical meridian.

Claim 47 (new) The contact lens of claim 46, wherein the ballast portion spans a distance along the vertical meridian of at least 100% of the respective dimensions of the superior, intermediate, and inferior portions as measured along the vertical meridian.

Claim 48 (new) The contact lens of claim 47, wherein the ballast portion is provided on the entire inner zone including the optic zone.

Claim 49 (new) The contact lens of claim 47, wherein the ballast portion is provided on the entire inner zone except for the optic zone.

Claim 50 (new) the contact lens of claim 39, wherein the peripheral zone is tapered thinner toward the peripheral edge of the lens.

Claim 51 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, further including a cylindrical correction on either the anterior face or the posterior face.

Claim 52 (new) The contact lens of claim 51, wherein the cylindrical correction is provided on the posterior face, and wherein the optic zone of the anterior face comprises a spherical correction.

Claim 53 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the inner zone is of substantially uniform radial width around the circumference of the lens.

Claim 54 (new) The contact lens of claim 53, wherein a band circumscribed by the peripheral zone and around the optic zone is substantially annular, with a superior distance A being defined along the vertical meridian and within the inner zone from the

optic zone to the peripheral zone, and an inferior distance B being defined along the vertical meridian and within the inner zone from the optic zone to the peripheral zone, and wherein  $0.25A \leq B \leq A$ .

Claim 55 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the body is a soft contact lens.

Claim 56 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the ballast portion is a periballast.

Claim 57 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the lens further incorporates a dynamic stabilization mechanism.

Claim 58 (new) The contact lens of claim 39, wherein the lens further incorporates a negative spherical power distance correction.